

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

LAB-04 SIL-01 PA-02 PRS-01 /092 W

-----091005Z 003946 /21

R 080720Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7503

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 1501

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN, ETRD, SN

SUBJECT: ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS - SINGAPORE DIESEL ENGINE PROJECT

REF: STATE 061147

1. SINGAPORE'S ASEAN DIESEL PROJECT SEEMS TO HAVE MADE LITTLE HEADWAY OVER LAST SIX MONTHS. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD (EDB) IS CARRYING OUT A DETAILED FEASIBILITY STUDY, WHICH INCLUDES CAREFUL LOOK AT THE MARKET FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF DIESEL ENGINES BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE ASEAN. HOWEVER, EDB PLANS TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE TO LOOK AT EXISTING DIESEL PLANTS HAVE BEEN PUT OFF UNTIL EARLY NEXT YEAR.

2. WHILE GOS OBVIOUSLY STILL VERY KEEN ON THIS PROJECT, IT HAS FOUND IT TOUGH GOING GETTING SPECIFIC AGREEMENT TO VITAL PREFERENTIAL TARIFF CONCESSIONS FROM ASEAN PARTNERS, TO ASSURE NECESSARY MARKET SUPPORT. LATER THIS SUMMER, HOWEVER, THERE WILL BE MEETINGS IN SINGAPORE OF THE ASEAN COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY AND ASEAN ECONOMIC MINISTERS. GOS IS HOPEFUL THAT FINAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS CAN BE IRONED OUT AT THESE MEETINGS, SO THAT IT CAN BEGIN TO DISCUSS THE FINANCING, EQUITY POSITIONS, AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT WITH INTERESTED INVESTORS.

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3. FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT IS STILL UP IN THE AIR, BUT IS NOT SEEN AS A PROBLEM, SINCE PROJECT IS SMALL ENOUGH FOR SINGAPORE TO HANDLE. FURTHERMORE, SINGAPORE RECEPTIVE TO PRIVATE CAPITAL, UP TO LIMITS AGREED ON UNDER ASEAN GUIDELINES. WORLD BANK OR ADB FUNDING ALSO CONSIDERED POSSIBLE, AND GOS HAS HELD TALKS WITH JAPANESE OECF (SHOULD FINANCING FROM LATTER COME

TO PASS, OF COURSE, JAPANESE FIRMS ARE LIKELY TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT LEG UP WITH EDB FOR PARTICIPATION IN HIS PROJECT).

4. REGARDING ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS GENERALLY, EMBASSY CALLS DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION TO ANTHONY ROWLEY'S ARTICLE ON FIVE ASEAN PROJECTS IN MARCH 25 ISSUE OF FAR EAST ECONOMIC REVIEW.

5. ALSO WISH TO NOTE THAT IN RECENT DISCUSSION WITH GOS TRADE DEPARTMENT AND EDB OFFICIALS, EMBOFFS WERE TOLD THAT A SECOND ROUND OF UNSPECIFIED ASEAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED "SOON". SEVERAL OF THESE MAY BE EXISTING INDUSTRIES WHICH ARE BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT TO BE GIVEN ASEAN DESIGNATION.
GRANT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), DIESEL ENGINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2857207
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ETRD, SN, ASEAN
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Type: TE
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